

**In the Specification**

Please amend page 3, last paragraph as follows:

However, each method for purifying the exhaust gas using NOx removal catalyst has a problem that, in the exhaust gas containing sulfur oxides and excess oxygen, the NOx removal performance deteriorates remarkably and the practicable durability is insufficient. Furthermore, it has also a problem that NOx removal performance is low if the majority of the exhaust gas is at relatively ~~low~~ low temperature of 300-400°C.

Please amend page 7, last paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 as follows:

As exhaust gases containing nitrogen oxides to which the present invention is applied, there are gases exhausted from various combustion facilities such as boiler or the like, internal combustion engines of diesel engine motor vehicles or stationary diesel engines or the like, and industrial facilities such as nitric acid production facility. These exhaust gases generally contain reducing component such as CO, HC (Hydrocarbon) and H<sub>2</sub>, and oxidizing component such as NOx and O<sub>2</sub>, but contain oxygen amount in excess of stoichiometric amount necessary for complete oxygen reduction reaction of the ~~oxidizing~~ oxidizing component. NOx in the exhaust gas in which excessive oxygen exists is reduced and decomposed into N<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O, by making the exhaust gas contact with the catalyst of the present invention under the existence of methanol and/or dimethyl ether.